

**BADGER STATE**

# Smoke Signals

**For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs**

**Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 21st Year • Single Copy: \$1**

**Vol. 21 No. 9 - 249th Consecutive Monthly Issue - Baraboo, Wisconsin - September 1990**

RETURN ADDRESS:  
Kenneth A. Ebner  
822 Wauona Trail  
Portage WI 53901

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## New QCWA Chapter Has First Meeting



The above group photo shows those attending the first meeting of the Quarter Century Wireless Association's (QCWA) Wisconsin Badger Chapter 174. All left to right, in the front row are Mike Peters, W9GHY; Al Maliek, K9WVM; and John Feltz, WA9LWJ. Seated are Marie Leonard, W8LDT; Bob Baird, W9NN; Frank Guth, W9BCC; and Lee Parsons, W9TQD. In the back row are Gene Santoski, K9UTQ; Gus Bonow, W9IHW; Murray Leonard, W8MY; Ray Sunderland, K9ANV; Irv Froelich, W9RZW; Tom Liska, K9CJM; Chuck Dawson, W9CUW; and Joe Binder, W9VLH. More news about the new chapter is on page 4 of this issue.

Photo courtesy Frank Guth/W9BCC

## Monroe County ARES Members, Other Amateurs Help in Tomah Flood

Story and Photos in October BSSS

## Incumbent Director Unchallenged

## Three Vie for Central Division Vice-Director

The American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) Central Division members will soon be marking ballots for a director and a vice-director for the 1991-1992 term of office. Elections are being held in 8 of the League's 16 divisions.

In the Central Division, incumbent Director Ed Metzger, W9PRN, Springfield, Illinois, is unopposed.

Incumbent Central Division Vice-Director Howard Huntington, K9KM, Lake Zurich, Illinois, is being challenged by two opponents: Michael Hoshiko, W9CJW, of Carbondale, Illinois, and Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, of Portage, Wisconsin.

The Central Division is composed of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Full members of the League will receive ballots, and are encouraged to participate in the election and to vote for the candidate of their choice.

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ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



Badger State Smoke Signals



## Swapfests and other Social Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1990. The Northern Illinois DX Association invites all DXers to attend the 38th annual W9DXCC. Contact Howard Huntington, K9KM, 25350 North Marilyn Lane, Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1990. BARS 6th annual Ham/Computerfest at the inwood Recreation Center, 3000 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL. Contact: BARS Hotline, (708) 759-7005.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15-16, 1990. SUPERFEST 90, sponsored by the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. Contact Superfest '90, P.O. Box 3461, Peoria, IL 61614. (309) 674-5656. (See ad in this issue BSSS with full details.)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 1990. RADIO EXPO, sponsored by the Chicago FM Club, will be held at the Lake County Fair Grounds, Rts. 45 & 120, Grayslake, IL. Contact CFMC, P.O. Box 1532, Evanston, IL 60204. (see also their ad in this issue of BSSS)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1990. FALLFEST 90 sponsored by the Green Bay Mike & Key Club, at the Green Bay Community Center. Contact Green Bay Mike & Key club, P.O. Box 13351, Green Bay, WI 54307. (414) 432-3491.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1990. Kettle Moraine Radio amateurs Computer and Ham Radio Swapfest. At the Waukesha County Exposition Center, Highways J and FT in Waukesha, WI. Contact KMRA Swapfest, P.O. Box 276, Waukesha, WI 53187. (see also their ad in this issue of BSSS)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1990. Fox Cities ARC Hamfest at the Starlite Club, Rte. 1, Kaukauna, WI. For table reservations contact Don Baker,

621 W. 7th St., Kaukauna, WI. (414)766-3886).

SATURDAY, MOVEMBER 10, 1990. The Milwaukee Repeater Club sponsors the 6th annual "6.91 Friendly Fest" from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Serb Hall, 51st & Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Selling halls are on the ground floor with easy access. Tickets \$4.00. Table \$5.00 On-site Amateur Exams. Contact Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2132, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas.

Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

## Club Meetings

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals may not be in every issue. Please save the information for your future use. We will, however, include any changes and additions when we are unable to provide the complete listing.

**BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**  
(W9YT - UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON)  
Monthly while school in session - 2nd Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. - B-314, Electrical Engineering Building.

**CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.**  
(STEVENS POINT)  
Second Wednesday.

**EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
2nd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Parks and Recreation

Bldg., Oxford and 1st Streets, Eau Claire. Hams, guests welcome. Travelers welcome on wide area club repeater K9UXP, 146.31/91.

**FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MADISON WI)**  
First and third Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m. - Red Cross Bldg., 4860 Sheboygan Ave.

**FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
Third Monday - 7:00 p.m. - Roosevelt Jr. High School, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton. Info: (414) 766-3886.

**GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION**  
Fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Contact Jerry Scherkenbach, N9AW, at (414) 481-8831 for meeting location.

**GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB**  
Second Thursday - Red Cross Bldg., corner Danz and Deckner, Green Bay.

**GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
Third Monday - 7:30 p.m. - Green Lake Town Hall, int. of county hwy. K and N.

**KETTLE MORaine RADIO AMATEURS**  
Second Friday, 7:30 p.m. at the Waukesha County Technical College, Campus Science Building, Room 102. Talk-in on the N9KS 147.39 repeater.

**LAKESHORE RPTR. ASSN.**  
Last Tuesday, Jan., Apr., Jul., & Oct., 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

**MADISON AREA REPEATER ASSOCIATION**  
1990 meeting dates: Mondays, September 10, & November 12.

**MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS**  
Directors Meeting: First Wednesday.  
General meeting: Second Wednesday.  
Both meetings held at 7:30 p.m. in the basement, Manitowoc City Hall, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc.

**MENOMONEE FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
Last Tuesday - Doors open 7:30 p.m., meeting begins 8:00 p.m. - Security Savings and Loan, Menomonee Falls. Amateurs and guests welcome.

**MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB**  
Fourth Thursday - Wauwatosa Savings and Loan, 7500 W. State St. (November on the fifth Thursday. No meetings in July, August and December.) Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

**NORTHERN WISCONSIN RADIO CLUB**  
4th Tuesday - 7:30 p.m., Sept. through April. Peppermill Restaurant, Thunderbird Mall North, Menomonee, WI. Guests welcome.

**NORTHWOODS ARC (RHINELANDER WI)**  
Third Tuesday. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. South Park School, Rhineland, WI. Talk-in on 146.93/.34. All interested visitors to the Northwoods are welcomed.

**OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB**  
Second Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. - Saukville Community Center.

**QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55**  
Contact Robert Halbman, AJ9P, Treasurer, For

## BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

### OFFICERS AND STAFF

**CHAIRMAN**  
Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN  
822 Wauona Trail  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
(608) 742-3560

**EDITOR**  
Jim Ronefanger, K9ZZ  
412 1/2 Ash Street  
Baraboo, WI 53913

**TREASURER**  
Jim Decker, WB9UQT  
P.O. Box 337  
Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

1 year	(12 issues)	\$8.50
2 years	(24 issues)	\$16.00
3 years	(36 issues)	\$23.00

ADDRESS CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS should be sent to Kenneth A. Ebner, address above.

EDITORIAL MATERIAL, PHOTOGRAPHS, FEATURE ARTICLES, AND EXCHANGE PAPERS should be sent to Jim Ronefanger, address above.

DISPLAY ADS or INQUIRIES REGARDING DISPLAY ADS may be directed to Harry Westlund or Kenneth Ebner, addresses above.

SUBSCRIPTIONS should be sent, with check or money order (do not send cash), to Jim Decker, address above.

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The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply agreement or endorsement by Badger State Smoke Signals, or by any other organization.

information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings.

QCWA - SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN CHAPTER #162  
Meets third Monday monthly, 7:30 p.m., Around the Clock Restaurant, 3012 Rapids Drive, Racine.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB  
Second Monday, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
First Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Onalaska Community Center, Onalaska WI.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB  
Monthly - first Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. at Dodge County Sheriff's Department, 141 N. Main, Juneau, WI.

ARES Net: 146.04/146.64 Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays on 7277 KHz at 10:30 a.m.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Second Tuesday - 7:00 p.m. - Sheboygan Red Cross/Boy Scout Bldg., 2032 Erie Ave.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
First Wednesday - Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek WI. Auctions in March and October.

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC)  
MEDFORD  
Usually the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM sharp. Usual location: emergency government meeting room, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on 147.75/15 or 145.27(-600) repeaters. Amateurs & guests are welcome. ARS Net, Wednesday nights at 8:30 PM on 147.75/15. For info contact: Rolland Walty, W9LEE, W4117 Hwy. 102, Westboro, WI 54490. (715) 427-3492

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Second Sunday of each month. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m., at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 314 Barrie, Fort Atkinson, WI.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Tuesday: ARES/RACES - 7:30 p.m., club meeting - 8:00 p.m., Town of Polk Town Hall, Hwy. 60 and Scenic Dr. Net on 146.13/73 every Monday 7:30 p.m.

WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
First Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., The Watertown Public Library, 100 S. Water St., Watertown, WI

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
First Saturday in March, June, September and December.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB  
Second Tuesday - 8:00 p.m. - St. Francis Savings, 9330 W. Greenfield Ave.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS  
Meetings are held Quarterly, with time and location to be announced. Repeater licensees,

trustees, and sponsors are urged to attend W.A.R. meetings. All interested parties are welcome, as well.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION (WAUSAU)  
First Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - Location varies; info on 146.04/64, Wausau.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)  
Days rotate: 1990 meeting dates:  
Thu. Sep. 13, room 14; Tue. Oct. 16, room 12;  
Wed. Nov. 14, room 14; Thu. Dec. 13, room 14.  
All meeting at the Baraboo Civic Center, Baraboo, WI. Meetings start 7:30 p.m.

Let Badger State Smoke Signals know your club's meeting dates, and we will let our readers know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.



The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area. (Underlined are added or changed since last months BSSS.)

September 5, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 15, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
September 15, 1990	Dubuque, IA
<u>September 15, 1990</u>	<u>Appleton, WI</u>
<u>September 15, 1990</u>	<u>Juneau, WI</u>
October 3, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
<u>October 13, 1990</u>	<u>Eau Claire, WI</u>
October 20, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 3, 1990	Menomonie, WI
November 7, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 17, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
<u>December 1, 1990</u>	<u>Stevens Point, WI</u>
December 5, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 8, 1990	Dubuque, IA
December 15, 1990	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, First Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Monthly, Third Sat.	Loves Park, IL

#### GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Most examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walkins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 25¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$4.95 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC

form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

#### MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB - MRAC/VEC

1990 examination dates: Sep. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5.

Tests are Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa East High School, North 74th and Milwaukee Avenue. Enter through the southmost entrance on 74th Street. Go to room 256 on the 2nd floor. Please arrive promptly, so testing can be completed before 10:00 p.m. Bring along your original license and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such as driver's license, etc. Also required are a pen and \$4.75 for the exam fee. WALKINS are welcome. To register in advance, use a 15 cent U.S. post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, 1737 North 116th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226, or to Ed Sergua, KE9JJ, 3840 South 43rd Street #21, Milwaukee, WI 53220. Telephones: (414) 774-6999 or (414) 545-6299.

#### BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Sep. 15, Oct. 2, Nov. 17, & Dec. 15.

Unless otherwise noted, examinations are administered beginning at 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church basement, 5345 N. Green Bay Ave. (2 1/2 blocks south of Silver Spring), Milwaukee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

#### MENOMONIE, WI (ARRL-VEC)

November 3, 1990

Credit Union Bldg., 444 S. Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Contact: Dr. T. King, WF9I, 108 Shorewood Dr., Menomonie, WI 54751. (715) 235-5757.

#### EAU CLAIRE, WI

Tests will be given on the following dates:  
October 13, 1990

The September examinations will be given at the Facilities Management Building, The University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire Campus.

#### STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN

December 1, 1990

Blue Top Supper Club at south edge of the city on Business 51. Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW, 644 Portage St., Stevens Point, WI 54481. (715) 344-1182.

#### RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Exams are given at 9:00 a.m. at the Red  
(continued on page 18)

## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

### Wisconsin Nets

NET	WNA	FREQ.	UTC	CDT	MANAGER
BWN	Yes	3984	1100	0600	KC9CJ
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	N9IAI
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	KA9FVX
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9NGP
NWTN	Yes	34/94	2330	1830	NS9Q
6:30 Net	No	01/61	2330	1830	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145	2045	WB9NRK
			Thu	Wed	
RACES	No	3993.5	1715	1215	WC9AAG
		USB	Tue and Thu		
RACES	No	3993.5	1300	0800	WA9OAY
		LSB	Sunday		

### Section Manager's

*notes*

Richard R. Regent, K9GDF  
5003 South 26th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221



Congratulations to Verne Teske, W9-  
RYA, recently appointed ARRL State Gov-  
ernment Liaison (SGL), who will watch for  
local ordinances that restrict tower height.  
Verne will be on 3.985 MHz Wednesdays  
and Fridays at noon, and 3.967 MHz Tues-  
days, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 8:30  
a.m. to assist you with resolving problems.  
(BSSS Editor's Note: The SGL needs to  
know about any local, city, county, or  
state ordinances, proposed or adopted, that  
would affect Amateur Radio in ANY way.  
If such a situation occurs in your area,  
please let Verne know about it, and in-  
clude all the details you can get.)

W9IZQ received 50-year ARRL mem-  
bership plaque.

Rick, N19P, and his XYL earned "Good  
Citizens" awards from Stevens Point Safe-  
ty Council for aiding a citizen.

A new Ham Radio store called "Radio  
Recyclers", run by WK9Q, has opened in  
Milwaukee at 3221 West Lincoln Avenue,  
phone (414) 383-9001 for hours and infor-  
mation.

Thanks to communicators who worked  
hard to provide public service service com-  
munications, including WB9SMM for Milwau-  
kee City of Festivals, and K9KJT with the  
Great Circus Parade.

Stan, WB9RQR, Ozaukee County EC,  
writes the superb "Ozares Newsletter" for  
his team of communicators, and is working

## QCWA Wisconsin Badger Chapter 174 Meets First Time

The first official meeting of the new  
Quarter Century Wireless Association (QC-  
WA) Wisconsin Badger Chapter 174 was  
held June 16, 1990, at the Blue Top Res-  
taurant in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Seven-  
teen of our twenty members attended the  
meeting.

The meeting was called to order by  
the President Pro-Tem, Bob Baird, W9NN.  
After greetings to the members, Bob relat-  
ed how QCWA was started, and how our  
Chapter 174 came into being. Our petition  
to QCWA for a charter was signed by thir-  
teen members, and was granted on March  
31, 1990. One of the signers, Fred Hebal,  
W9AXQ, became a Silent Key April 4th as  
a result of a heart attack. Let us have a  
moment of silence for Fred.

We then turned to our first election  
of officers and directors, with results as  
follows:

President: Robert E. Baird, W9NN  
Vice President: Robert H. Rifleman,  
WA9N

Secretary: Frank L. Guth, W9BCC, and  
Treasurer: Michael N. Peters, W9GHY.

Five other directors elected were:  
Raymond J. Sunderland, K9ANV; Eugene R.  
Santoski, K9UTQ; Joseph J. Binder, W9-  
VLH; Allan T. Mallek, K9WVM; and Erwin  
C. Froelich, W9RZW.

Please note that chapter members Bill  
Hebal, W9NYI, and Ed Pekol, W9FPE, had  
to leave early, and so are not in the photo  
on the front page.

- Frank L. Guth, W9BCC  
Secretary, QCWA Chapter 174  
1632 Ellis Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

on telephone call tree call up that really  
works. Ozares participated in practice  
exercise at Freeman Chemical Company  
near Port Washington to assist Emergency  
Government.

New officers of Sheboygan County  
ARC are: Pres. KB9AFT; V. Pres. N9IXX;  
Sec. WE9R; and Treas. WA9SNU.

The Rock River RC sponsors the Old  
Timers Net Saturday at 11:00 a.m. on 7.277  
MHz, the ARES Net Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
on 146.46 MHz, and is having success with  
their radio classes.

Green Lake Net is Sunday at 8:00 p.m.  
on 146.955 MHz.

October 3rd, exams by the Milwaukee  
RAC at 7:00 p.m. in the Wauwatosa East  
High School, more info from KE9JJ.

Quarter Century Wireless Association,  
Wisconsin Chapter 55, will meet October  
6th, with a lunch at noon, program and  
auction, at Klemmers Williamsburg Inn,  
10401 West Oklahoma Avenue, in Milwau-  
kee. Visitors and guests are welcome to  
join the QCWA fun.

October 6th Fallfest opens at 8:00  
a.m., sponsored by Green Bay Mike and  
Key Club at Green Bay Community Center,  
just off Highway 41 on Dousman; exams on  
site.

October 14th is the date for the fall  
Ham and Computer Swapfest, Waukesha  
County Expo, starts 7:00 a.m., sponsored  
by the KMRA.

October 15th, the Fox Cities ARC will  
have club meeting program on the nuclear  
generation of power.

October 20th, exams by Badger Exam-  
iners, Nicholas Church in Milwaukee, WI9M  
for information.

October 21st, Annual West Allis RAC  
Dinner, starts 4:00 p.m. at Cotton Picker  
on Highway 36 near East Troy.

Sorry to report Silent Keys W9CAR  
and W9ZZM.

## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

### Annual Picnic and Fall Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 8, 1990  
Hartman Creek State Park  
Highway 54 West, Waupaca

Picnic Starts Around Noon  
Meeting Begins at 1 p.m.

Prizes - Surprises

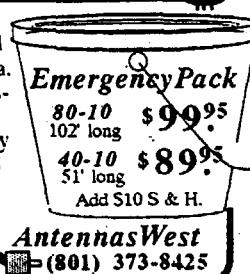
Everyone Welcome!

### QRV Antenna Emergency Packs

Emergency Packs contain  
QRV All Band kink-proof wx-sealed  
multi-band Dipole-V-Sloper antenna.  
70' coax feedline. Quick Launch sys-  
tem. rotproof dacron support braid.  
40 p Tech Manual. Complete. Ready  
for Action. One person installs in 15  
minutes. Infopack \$1 by 1st class mail.

Fastest Antennas  
in the West

Box 50062-SS, Provo, UT 84605





## Wisconsin Scholarship Winners Announced

The winners have been announced for the WARAC (West Allis Radio Amateur Club) Memorial Scholarships for 1990. Douglas Kleemann, KA9LWN, of Shawano; Chad Kurszewski, WE9V, of Greenfield; and Martin Van Der Burgt, KA9MSR, of Kaukauna, were chosen by the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) to receive the three \$500 scholarships.

Douglas, who has been a winner for the past two years, will be a senior at Marquette University, where he continues to major in biochemistry. Eventually, he hopes to become a doctor, specializing in general practice. His academic grades and Amateur Radio activity continue to be very satisfactory.

Chad is in the final year of a five year co-op program at Marquette, where he is studying Electrical Engineering. Despite considerable involvement, he maintains a high grade point average.

Martin, who was one of the 1988 Radio Club of America scholarship winners, will be a senior at Marquette. He is majoring in Electrical Engineering, with a minor in Business Administration. Besides being active in several clubs and community activ-

ities, he participates in the Volunteer Examiner program.

The West Allis Amateur Radio Club, Inc. congratulates these young gentlemen on their selection by the FAR from among the many fine applicants for these scholarships. Formal presentation of the scholarship certificates will be made at the September 11, 1990 meeting of the club at St. Francis Savings, 9330 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis. Meeting time is 8:00 p.m.

These scholarships were sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc. as part of our ongoing Scholarship Program, and were administered by the Foundation for Amateur Radio. They were available to Wisconsin residents holding a Technician class or higher Amateur Radio license, and registered with a college, university, or technical school in the State of Wisconsin in a course leading to a bachelor or associate degree.

Badger State Smoke Signals will publish an announcement of the availability of the 1991 scholarships administered by the FAR in March or April, 1991.

## FCC Issues Notice on Testing of Disabled

The Federal Communications Commission on August 1 issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Morse code testing of persons with disabilities. At an open meeting, the commissioners announced NPRM 90-356, proposing amended rules "to accommodate those persons who, because of severe handicaps, have extraordinary difficulty in passing the higher speed Morse code telegraphy examinations for amateur operator licenses."

While the subject had been broached earlier, specific written information was not made available until after the ARRL Board of Directors had held their second 1990 meeting in late July.

For some time, volunteer examiners have exercised discretion in accommodating persons with disabilities, giving them several options in the testing of Morse proficiency. FCC Rules Part 97.509(h) say "The administering VEs must accommodate an examinee whose physical disabilities require a special examination procedure. The administering VEs may require a physician's certification indicating the nature of the disability before determining which, if any, special procedures must be used."

On July 18, in a letter to volunteer examiner coordinators, FCC went a step further, asking VECs to "please expand the special procedures the VEs make to accommodate handicapped individuals."

In that same letter, FCC said, "The Commission's policy is to exempt from the 13 and 20 WPM examinations persons holding a current, or within the renewal grace period, Novice, Technician, General, or Advanced Class operator license who, because of their severe handicaps, cannot pass these examinations even when the above special accommodation procedures are used."

At the same time, in what the Commission referred to as "interim procedures," volunteer examiners were given specific instructions for obtaining a physician's certificate (to the examinee's dis-

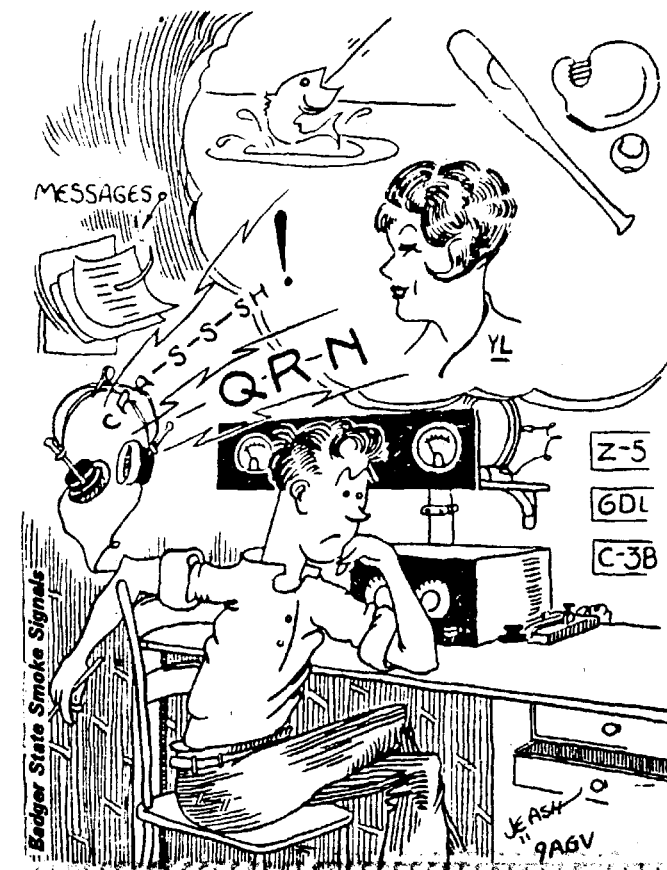
(Please turn to page 16)

## The More Things Change..

The cartoon below was drawn by Joe Ash, 9AGV, in 1926. Joe, now W9ODV, of Sheboygan, held two calls in 1926: 9AGV and 9ABM. The cartoon was printed in a Milwaukee radio club newsletter.

QRM and QRN slowed down traffic 64 years ago, too. While the equipment was much different then, the cartoon shows that human nature hasn't changed much. The more things change, the more they remain the same!

Volume 1 JUNE 1926 Number 4



## From the Editor

It ain't over yet, folks. The venerable Radio Shack Model 4 computer, which had been giving us so much trouble, and about which I wrote last month, came back from the repair shop (again), and the data disk drive IS fixed and DOES work. But, now the size of the image on the monitor jumps all over the place, suggesting a new power supply may be needed - again. The one we had installed last year cost, with labor, \$130.00. And, it looks like here we go again. Oh, poop.

And, sorry to be a "downer" this month, but I lost one of my best friends August 21, when my little guinea pig died at 3 1/2 years old. A post-mortem showed a defective liver, probably since birth. But, I have lead on another one; maybe next week, I'll have a new friend here!

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# Ham Radio Aboard the Great Circus Train: How it Came to Be

By Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ  
412 1/2 Ash Street  
Baraboo, WI 53913

and

Don Evenson, K9JYX  
401 11th Street  
Baraboo, WI 53913

It is June, 1965. The Circus World Museum in Baraboo has been open for six years, and is doing very well, under the capable and competent direction of its first director, Charles P. (Chappie) Fox. Corporate support has been found, and already at least one authentic, old time circus parade has been held on the streets of downtown Milwaukee. Now, a new wrinkle is to be added: instead of unceremoniously transporting all the ornate circus wagons to Milwaukee on flatbed trucks, they will be going on a real, honest-to-goodness CIRCUS TRAIN!

Jim Romelfanger (then K9PKQ, of Baraboo), was the Emergency Coordinator for the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps in Sauk County. One day, the letter reproduced at the right arrived. Jim promptly, but not without a lot of nervousness, approached Chappie Fox about having an Amateur Radio station on the circus train. The benefits of having communications available were obvious to us, of course. And, after a cordial meeting with Chappie, the answer was yes. That, in a nutshell, is how Amateur Radio became an integral part of the circus train's journey every year - and it still is.

We'd like to pass along to our readers a few of our memories of those great days.

As the letter says, a VHF rig was aboard the train (a tube-type Motorola high-band radio, converted to 2-meter FM), with Don Evenson, K9JYX, operating. Bernie Tower, K9ZPP (now AI6Q), did drive a "chase car", and passed progress reports to Milwaukee on 75-meter SSB. For the first two years of Amateur Radio operation on the train, the radios and operators were stuffed in the galley of a dining car. The operators stood up for the entire trip. And, when asked where the train was, the operators couldn't tell.. there were no windows! After that year, the operators used a table in the dining car.. and they could see where the train was. One year, Don, K9JYX, had the honor of having Ted Mack (of TV's "The Original Amateur Hour") speak over the two-meter circuit.

A few years later, the operation was switched to a Navy-Marine Corps MARS circuit, where a system of linked repeaters allowed almost continuous coverage from the train to Milwaukee, regardless of the train's location.

During those years, the train's trip was just one day - it left the Baraboo rail yard at about 6:30 a.m., and arrived in Milwaukee around 4 p.m., going from Baraboo to Madison, then east to Milwaukee. The current series of trips takes two days; day one from Baraboo to Janesville, and day two from Janesville to Milwaukee via the Chicago area.

In 1966, it was decided to try a 75-meter SSB operation, in addition to the 2-meter station. Don, K9JYX, strung a long-wire antenna on top of the rail car (the maximum clearance above the car was just 18 inches). The station end of the wire was connected to a BC-610 antenna tuning unit, and the rig used was a Heath SB-100. Not very many contacts were made on 75; the log of that operation shows contacts with: W9QJW (on the Badger Emergency Net); W9IFS; WA9QNI (Jack); WA9SSN (Wayne, in Chilton, WI); W9UAZ (Lee, Lincoln, IL); W9BHT (Bill, IL); W9EJD (Don, Mauston, WI); WA9JGI (Doc, Milwaukee, WI); W9KHE (Alex, Milwaukee, WI); WA9AUC Mobile (Jim, Madison, WI); and K9WXS Mobile (Roy, in Madison, WI, and now W9IAU - the former callsign of the station at the store where Roy sold Amateur Radio equipment, Satterfield Electronics). After that contact, RF arced through the feedline's insulation to the rail car's roof, and that was the end of the 75-meter operation.

In those early circus train/ham radio days, a few interesting events occurred. Since the train trip and the circus parade were sponsored (funded) by the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company, there

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OFFICE OF THE  
SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

QST  
OFFICIAL ORGAN

3 JUNE 1965

MR. JAMES ROMELFANGER, K9PKQ  
EC SAUK CO.  
117 1/2 4TH STREET  
BARABOO, WISCONSIN

DEAR JIM,

SORRY I HAVEN'T WRITTEN YOU SOONER, BUT THE FLOODS, TORNADOES, AND SUBSEQUENT REPORTS, ETC. HAVE KEPT ME HOPPING.

I WONDER IF YOU CAN CO-ORDINATE SOME AREC OPERATIONS THAT SOME OF THE WAUKESHA-MILWAUKEE CREWS ARE CONTEMPLATING AROUND JULY 1 TO 10TH.

K9JYX (DON) IS PUBLIC RELATIONS MAN FOR WAUKESHA COUNTY AREC, AND HIS EC W9ZPV AND EC OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY, K9KJT, ARE BOTH DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE 5TH OF JULY PARADE IN MILWAUKEE.

WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF K9JYX CAN RIDE THE TRAIN FROM BARABOO TO MILWAUKEE, USING A VHF RIG TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH A MOBILE (PROBABLY ME) WHO WOULD ACCOMPANY THE TRAIN TO AND RELAY TO MILWAUKEE ON 75 SSB.

A LOCAL BROADCAST STATION WOULD SUPPLY REGULAR REPORTS TO THE PUBLIC AND PERHAPS THE PUBLIC INTEREST CAN BE AROUSED AS WE GO.

NATURALLY, YOU ARE INVITED (EVEN URGED) TO GO ALONG, AND WHEN THE AREC IS IN FULL TILT DURING THE PARADE EVENTS, CAN REVIEW AND WATCH THE WHOLE OPERATION FROM ANY OF SEVERAL VANTAGE POINTS, AND WE CAN GET ACQUAINTED.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF K9JYX CAN DO THE TRIP FOR QST AND WAUKESHA FREEMAN (PLUS RADIO).

YOURS,

VY 73  
Bernie Tower, K9ZPP  
BERNIE TOWER, SEC.

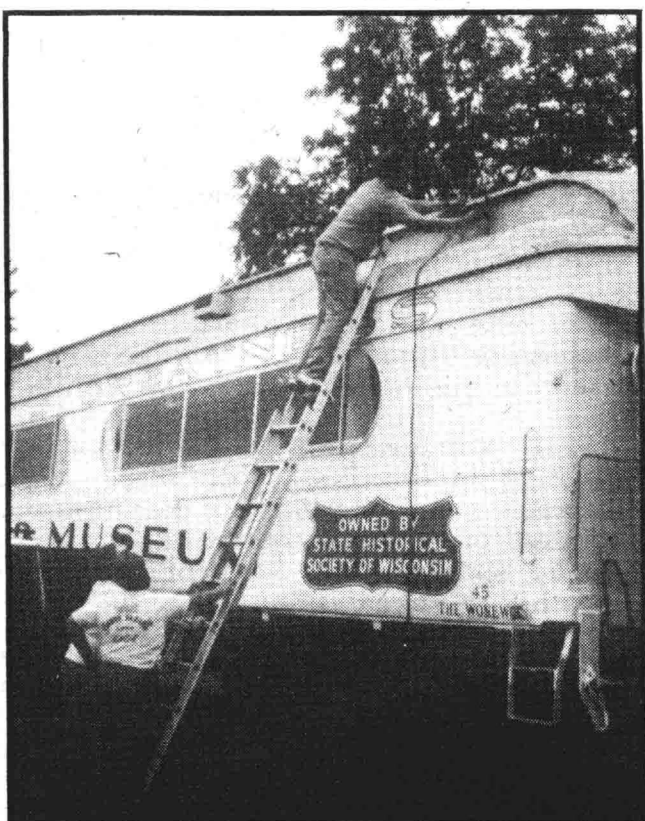
CC: K9KJT, W9ZPV, K9JYX, FILE



Photos  
courtesy of  
Don Evenson,  
K9JYX

The 1965 Waukesha County EC, Dick Oberholtzer, W9ZPV, (left) is a Silent Key; 1965 SEC Bernie Tower, K9ZPP, right, is now AI6Q.





A Milwaukee County ARES worker installs antennas on the Great Circus Train in the Baraboo rail yard, in preparation for the train's 1990 journey.

was always plenty of Schlitz and Old Milwaukee (a Schlitz brand) beer aboard. But, in 1965, disaster struck.. the beer ran out! Don, K9JYX, was asked by Dae Shawl (an official) to radio ahead for more, which he did. The beer was taken to Waukesha, where it was to be put aboard the train. But, due to the large crowds and the train's short stop, the driver missed the train. Then, Dick Kimball, WA9MME, was instructed to load the beer into his car - 30 cases - and meet the train at West Allis. However, the engineer did not have train orders to stop at West Allis! It was "Here it comes.... there it goes!" They decided to not try a third time to get the beer aboard, and WA9MME was told to "take care of the beer as he saw fit." There was a whole summer's worth of free



Those stations fortunate enough to work K9JYX/Rail Mobile on June 30, 1966, received this QSL card - in color, of course. The Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company sponsored the train trip and the parade - and a lot of other special activities in Milwaukee near the parade's date - until 1973. The Great Circus Train, which now makes a two-day trip, and which began running five years ago, is sponsored by Strong Funds. The Radio Amateurs who are allowed to ride and operate are under the strict control of Milwaukee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the Milwaukee County ARES Emergency Coordinator; no other Hams are allowed to ride.

beer for the Milwaukee ARES gang.

On one trip, things got a little hectic, and a can of beer was spilled.. right into a Motorola CompaStation belonging to Jack McLeland, W9ATK. True to Motorola's reputation as quality equipment, the radio kept right on working, but K9JYX did dump the beer out of the radio before continuing to operate it.

And then there was the trip during which Chappie Fox's trademark battered fedora hat blew off and was lost. Chappie without his fedora! The hams aboard saved the day again by radioing to Milwaukee the news of the tragedy; when the train pulled into Milwaukee, he was presented with another hat. It's not known if it was new, or if it was pre-battered.

During one of the train trips, and just out of Baraboo, the operator (K9JYX) on the train discovered the 2-meter FM rig wouldn't work on a critical frequency.

Those old Motorola radios had separate oscillators and crystals for each frequency. Don discovered that the heater in the oscillator deck's tube was burned out. What to do? The chase car driver (Bernie Tower, K9ZPP) barreled ahead into Lodi, found a TV service shop, bought a new tube and, as the train went past, he tossed the tube aboard. One of the train crew, seeing a foreign object tossed onto the train, almost threw the tube back off the train, but Don grabbed it. The tube did the trick, and the radio was fully functional again.

Those are a few of our recollections of some times that were both frustrating and fun. In next month's issue, read about one of the largest Amateur Radio Emergency Service operations in the Midwest - the public service networks for the Great Circus Parade.

## Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW  
Secretary  
1129 McKinley Road  
Eau Claire, WI. 54703

### Minutes: 14 August 1990 Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7:35 p.m. by President Bill Jablonske, W9NNS. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and commented upon at some length. The recent Hamfest was very successful, and considerably replenished the treasury. Needless to say, the report was approved.

The Hamfest was discussed. It appears to be our best one to date, and we may

start a search for a new site for next year. Members indicated that visitors' comments were favorable in the main, and most said they would return.

Visitors to the meeting included G1-KTT, relocating in Eau Claire from England, and N9HME from Eau Claire.

It was reported that member Joe Eide, KB9R, was instrumental in helping the Hayward repeater return to activity. Bob Fallis, W9BAR, built a notch filter for the Medford packet node, to help with a desensitivity problem. W9NNS indicated that the Rice Lake node would be on the air shortly, as a tower has been located, and the gear is ready for installation.

Thanks to K9ZVZ for a donation of a large cooler to the club trailer. KA9HWN talked about the trailer, noting that painting still has to be done, as well as signage, carpeting, antenna locating, paneling, storage of generator, and other lesser details.

Members wishing to help, please contact Andy.

The program was to have been W0AIH. Paul Bittner, speaking on the new ring rotor for his very large antenna system. Paul had a conflict, and will speak to us at the September meeting.

Lunch Committee for the next (September 11) meeting: KB9R, N9GJU, and W9NNS.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

W9NW, Secretary

## Articles Wanted

BSSS can always use good articles about Amateur Radio and related topics. We're all volunteers - no one is paid, but you might become moderately famous!





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## John's Book Shelf

By John W. Frank, WB9TQG  
P. O. Box 5113  
Madison, WI 53705

### "QRP Notebook"

By Doug DeMaw, W1FB

The first thing I must point out is that this book is not for appliance operators. In fact, the foreword in this notebook ends with the sentence, "Experience first hand

the thrill of a contact with equipment you built."

The six chapters cover receivers, transmitters, accessories, transceivers, workshop tips, and QRP operating. Individual topics include direct conversion receivers, active audio filters, superheterodyne receivers, crystal oscillators, VFOs, VXOs, amplifiers, harmonic filters, power supplies, antenna matchers, and simple test equipment. Antennas are mentioned very briefly in the introduction.

Although there are no photos or fancy diagrams in this book, four simple block diagrams and 52 schematics do an admirable job of explaining how QRP equipment works, and how the different stages go together to make it work.

What kind of Ham might enjoy this book? Tinkerers, experimenters, and hard-core homebrewers would probably find the circuits and the associated theory very interesting.

The "QRP Notebook" by Doug DeMaw is published by the American Radio Relay League, and has a cover price of \$5.00.

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## Novice, Technician Classes Scheduled in Stevens Point

The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs will sponsor a 10-week Novice-Technician class series, starting September 25, 1990. If you have questions, or would like to register for the classes, contact Joe Larson, N9JW, 644 Portage Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or call Joe at (715) 344-1182.

- Frank L. Guth, W9BCC



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Kenwood TS-830S, with matching 230 VFO (500 Hz CW), \$750;

Kenwood SP-230 external speaker w/filters, \$60;

Heil desk microphone, \$75;

Swan WM-2000A PEP watt/SWR meter, 1.8 to 30 MHz, \$120.

All items are in excellent condition, and therefore all prices are firm. Call Joel Kupferberg, N9CPW, at (608) 271-1130 between 6:30 and 10:00 p.m.



# Swapfest Reviews

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF, Section Manager  
Wisconsin Section, American Radio Relay League  
5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221

## South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest

Wisconsin's largest outdoor swapfest is sponsored by the South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club, and was held July 17 this year. Finding the American Legion Post on Shepard Avenue in Oak Creek was easy, especially if you know where KB9QL's beam is, and head north a few blocks.

The sky was overcast. Upon arriving at 7:15 a.m., I was greeted by W9OQS, who recognized me at the entrance and, because I was volunteering for the ARRL, gave me free admission, saving the League \$4. Parking ushers were courteous, and car rows were quickly lining the fields, even this early.

Verne Teske, W9RYA, had phoned me a few days before the event, and invited me to put my ARRL table indoors. The club was going to try a few tables indoors for the first time, one for a personalized cap maker, and another for a computer software vendor. The offer was accepted. So, I proceeded with my cart to the building, and was provided with a chest-high stand near the east end, where the food was sold.

During the swapfest, I was a busy volunteer, answering hundreds of questions about Amateur Radio, and giving out all kinds of free pamphlets and informational literature. I looked so much like an information booth that the most frequently asked question was: "Where do I put my ticket?" A few people joined the ARRL or renewed, and KC9CJ arrived to help field questions.

Oil-sprayed dirt paths wound through a wide range of merchandise, everything from a table with a few items to a truckload of used gear. A big crowd was supplemented by many Illinois visitors. Sellers, only a number of which were commercial vendors, seemed to far outnumber potential buyers. A brief sprinkle of rain was unnoticed by most.

Unfortunately, lack of examiners cancelled the Amateur Radio on-site exams. Swapfest prizes were \$100, \$50, and other valued items. Free beer and soda were given during "Happy Times". Organizers were on the move, but could be easily found, and got the pulse to make this swapfest a success.

## Eau Claire ARC Swapfest

The scenery changed from farm field to large stone and tree covered hills near the end of the 250-mile drive to Eau Claire from Milwaukee. Arriving July 14th on the easy to find 4-H Grounds behind Highland Mall at 7:20 a.m., we parked in the free lot, and then waited in the admission line. When it was my turn, I asked if there was a reservation for the League booth. They didn't know what I meant by League, so I said "ARRL". The gentleman at the table then began saying "ARRL", and looking through three pages of calls. "The American Radio Relay League," I said, but they hadn't heard of that either, and all tables were taken. Mike, KA9BHL, standing in the line, recognized us, and hollered in jest, "Hey, the League is holding up the line."

For \$9, we got two admissions and an 8-foot table in an overflow building. We walked through the main Hamfest building, past many empty tables, and were directed to a barn located 100 feet from the main building. This was the sheep barn. Although it was swept out, the aroma was a bit too farmish for us city folks. We set up, along with a few other solemn vendors, in the semi-darkness, along the rabbit cages and sheep stalls of the windowless barn.

The 'fest began at 8 a.m. After 20 minutes, 'fest official A1, N9ISN, came to our rescue and asked if they could move the League table into the main building? "Sure!" Soon, three other movers arrived; Jerry, NG9A; his son Aaron; and Jeff, N9JMB.



Richard Regent, K9GDF, above, is a familiar sight to many swapfest attendees around Wisconsin. As American Radio Relay League Section Manager for the Wisconsin Section, he talks with swapfest-goers about League matters; he also sells some League publications and gives away handout literature, too. A prolific writer, he has had dozens of articles here in BSSS, and he wrote one of the chapters in the ARRL's "Public Service Communications Manual".

- Photo by Barb Regent/N9DIJ

They carefully carried the League table into the well-lit main building near five commercial vendors and crowds - right next to the food sales window. From dung to doughnuts, there we were.

The coffee, sugar cubes and styrofoam cups were free. Delicious home-baked cookie bars, cakes, and cupcakes, were 25 cents each. Good food at good prices, including hot dogs, chips, and soda, were selling well. The crowds peaked about 10 a.m. A packet meeting, with demonstration, was given at 10:30 a.m. Carl, W9NW, proudly reported that 40 walk-in tests were given for Amateur licensing in a nearby building.

My wife and I enjoyed talking to many nice folks out at the Hamfest, and were busy selling League materials, answering questions, and giving out free literature. Although there was a little rough startup, many thanks to everyone for their fine hospitality and cooperation. A good time was had by all.

## Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club Offers Beginners', Upgrade Classes

If you are in the Milwaukee area, are not now an Amateur Radio operator (or if you are an Amateur and want to upgrade), the H. Charles Kaetel Amateur Radio School of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club will offer licensing classes to help you, beginning September 5, 1990.

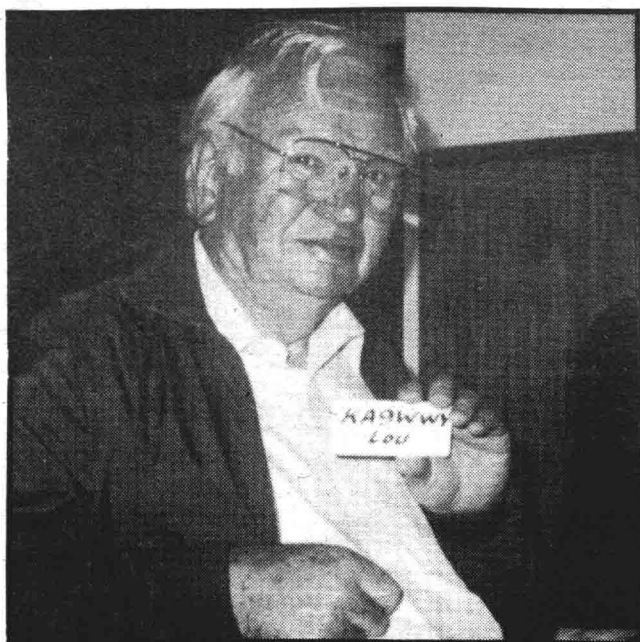
The classes will be held every Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and continue for nine weeks, at Wauwatosa East High School, at 74th and Milwaukee Avenue (Vliet Street). The 74th Street entrance is 1/2 block north of Milwaukee Ave. 74th Street in one-way southbound. Parking is available in the 74th Street lots.

There is a \$12 fee, plus needed books (the club will have books for sale at the first class sessions). Advance registration is appreciated. Send your name, address, city, state, and ZIP code, and \$12, to the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, P.O. Box 91, Milwaukee, WI 53201. If you have questions, you may call (414) 529-5583 after 8 p.m., or (414) 362-3634 from 12 until 3 p.m.

Classes are subject to minimum and maximum enrollment restrictions.



# Walleye Net Meeting Hooks Good Crowd



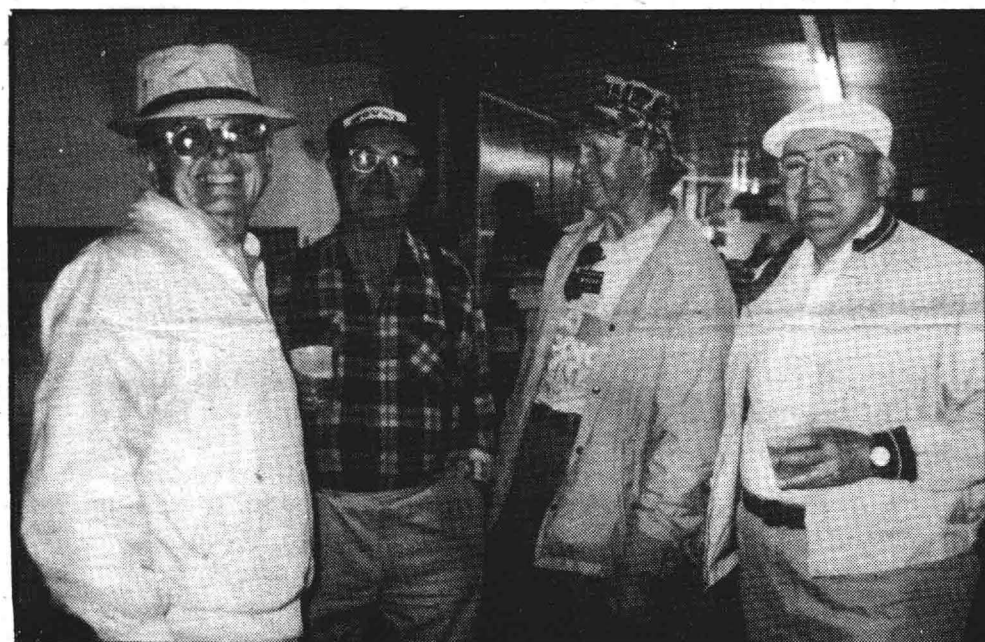
Shown here are some of those enjoying the Walleye Net Eyeball Gathering. This is Lou Graber, KA9WWY, Oshkosh.



Proudly displaying the Walleye Net's Official Sign and Coat of Arms is Jim Burns, K9ERO, of Cleveland, WI.



Dropping in at the gathering to enjoy the fun and frivolity were Ruth Banks, KB9RB, and OM Charlie, K9IS, Neenah, WI.



In their usual good spirits were, left to right: Bernie Fox, W9MNX, Ft. Atkinson, WI; Norm Eslinger, W9VST, Naperville, IL; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ, Racine, WI; and Hal Danforth, NU9L, Oshkosh, WI.

Photos courtesy Ole Fox/K9AKG

Fourteen licensees stopped in to pay their respects at the table of the Erudite Wall Eye Net annual "eyeball" at the South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club's Swapfest 90. We were in the shelter, and as near the bar as we could get, naturally. Wall Eye Net Hams have been meeting there for about ten years, and look forward to the meeting all year. We try to get as many of the mem-

(Please turn to page 12)

## JANUARY 4, 1983

\*\*\*\*\*

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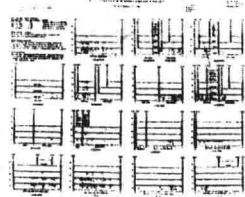
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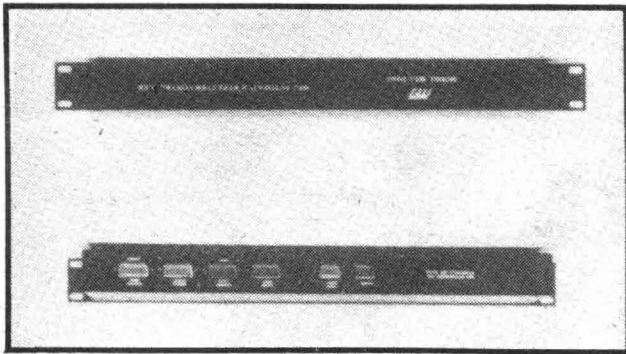
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MFJ Enterprises, Inc. announces the release of the new MFJ-2040 Repeater Controller with Autopatch, priced at only \$449.95. The new MFJ-2040 Repeater Controller with built-in Phone Patch gives you high tech features usually found only in the most expensive systems.

You get programmable Morse ID, (or optional Voice ID, MFJ-50, \$39.95), ring detection for reverse autopatch, input and output ports, cross-band linking, and more.

Installation is easy. You get standard "D" style connectors for all control and audio lines. The instruction manual gives you step-by-step instructions that get you up and running in minutes. Hardware schematics are provided.

The software puts you in complete control. You can choose from toll restriction, no toll restriction, or selected area code dialing. You can program this new MFJ-2040 Repeater Controller with built-in Phone Patch to allow dialing only in selected areas, locking out others.

Input and output ports control a variety of remote devices. Link radios, paging radios, PL tone control, local speakers, and other devices, can be controlled remotely via touch tone commands. Transistor drivers are provided on all output ports to allow direction connections or driving relays. The optional 5 second voice message PROM, MFJ-51, is \$39.95.

You can program your own private prefix code for controlling your repeater. Select from 0 to 4 touch tone codes.

Touch tone commands and DIP switches are used to control the repeater options. The MFJ Repeater Controller lets you control the courtesy tone, transmitter hang time, time-out timer, toll restriction, autopatch, Morse code ID, repeater on/off, line on/off, and more.

The new MFJ-2040 Repeater Controller with built-in Phone Patch comes in a rack mount aluminum enclosure with "D" style connectors. It uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with the MFJ-1315, \$14.95. The manual includes hookup instructions, command instructions, and an electronic schematic of the system.

For more information, or to order, contact any MFJ dealer, or MFJ Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762; phone (601) 323-5869; FAX:

(601) 323-6551; TELEX: 534590 MFJSTKV;  
or order toll-free at (800) 647-1800.

- MFJ Enterprises news release



MFJ-817 144/440 MHz Peak Reading  
Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ Enterprises, Inc. announces the release of the new peak and average reading MFJ-817 144/440 MHz Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. The MFJ-817 shows you forward power, reflected power, and SWR - all at a single glance. You get 2 power scales - 200 or 20 watts forward, and 5 or 50 watts reflected.

A meter lamp and a large, 2-color meter make across-the-room reading easy. The black aluminum cabinet measures 7-1/4" x 4-1/2" x 3-1/2". The meter lamp uses 12 VDC, or 110 VAC with the MFJ-1312 AC adapter, \$12.95. You also get MFJ's one year unconditional guarantee.

The MFJ-817 is priced at only \$79.95.

- MFJ news release

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**Associate, Disaster Communications,**  
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Former ARRL Executive Vice President,  
Assistant Communications Manager,  
Public Service Manager, Author of  
ARRL Emergency Coordinator's Handbook



- American Radio Relay League Illinois State Convention, League Vice President Jim Haynie, WB5JBP, speaker.
- Attend, listen and learn at packet and computer forums.
- Visit commercial and manufacturer exhibits ... amateur radio equipment and accessories ... home and professional computers, and software ... electronic equipment ... parts and components.
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- Eat an excellent meal at the Saturday night banquet ... reservations required ... see ticket order form below.
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Mail to: Superfest '90, Peoria-Area Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3461, Peoria, Ill. 61614

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ Admission Tickets @ \$4.00 each; \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Tickets @ \$12.00 each; \$\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



# Walleye Net Meeting

(Continued from page 10)

bers as we can to be present, and enjoy the many fine stories each one has to tell of what they did the last year, and to swap ideas.

The Wall Eye Net started in January, 1973. Norm, W9VST, gave it the name, as he thought we were all fishermen; now, though, he knows we are not all that interested in that sport.

Those in attendance this year were N9HI (George), WB9VRY (Joe), KN9H (Tom), W9MNX (Bernie, from Hiwasse, AR), W9VST (Norm, from Naperville, IL), KA9WWY (Lou), NU9L (Hal), K9AJF (Bill), K9AKG

(Ole), W9OVZ (Bill), K9ERO (Jim), W9DB (Dan), K9IS (Charlie), KB9RB (Ruth), and many who did not sign in.

The net meets every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. CDT on 3923 KHz. All Hams are invited to join us, and spend a few minutes or an hour with us.

We hope to have a contest at next year's eyeball meeting; pike baking or something of the sort.

We all agree that this swapfest is one of the best.

See you next year.

- Ole Fox, K9AKG  
Oak Creek, WI

# Parise/SAREX 90 to Fly in September!



Dr. Ronald Parise, WA4SIR

- NASA photo

The STS-35/SAREX-90 mission on board the space shuttle Columbia will be the next to fly. The orbiter is being brought back to the launch pad for a flight to begin around September 1st. Dr. Ron Parise, WA4SIR, informs us that he and his Amateur Radio equipment are prepared to "work the world" after the series of annoying delays that have grounded the orbiter since last spring.

Dr. Parise is a Payload Specialist on the ASTRO-1 mission who has waited patiently for years to take an amateur station into space. There are still no guarantees that the complex shuttle will make it this time, but NASA thinks that the new hardware that has been installed on the Columbia spacecraft has solved the problem of leaking hydrogen that forced the last postponement in May. Ahead, there is a full month of critical testing, but the space agency is expressing "cautious optimism" that this time the Columbia will be able to get into orbit safely.

A team of Amateur Radio operators is ready to go into place at the Johnson Space Center in Houston; at the Goddard Spaceflight Center near Washington, D.C.; at ARRL Headquarters station W1AW in Newington, Connecticut; and at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. Also, hams in Australia and Brazil are back on alert, ready to relay voice communication from WA4SIR to thousands of school children using the facilities of the North American Teleconference Net, as will numerous repeaters across the United States. Packet operators by the thousands are expected to set up their gear for as

(Continued on page 13)

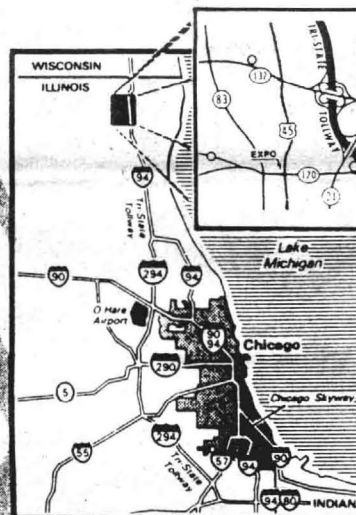
# RADIO EXPO

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22nd & 23rd**

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PHONE NUMBER ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Return to - CFMC - P.O. BOX 1532 - EVANSTON IL. - 60204



## She Teaches More Than Just English

(RACINE) - Cheryl Miller, WS9P, a 7th and 8th grade English teacher at Gilmore Middle School in Racine, reports that her three Novice class participants have passed their tests and received their tickets. Congratulations go to Mike Coulson, KB9FAM; Kit Cohen, KB9SEP; and Ken Dilloo, KB9-

FAF. All three will be 8th graders this fall, and hope to get a station operating from their school. Cheryl hopes to offer a Technician class to her new Novices, so they can upgrade before winter sets in.

Novices classes began at Gilmore Middle School in 1986 and, since that time,

one YL and eight other young men have received their tickets - a grand total now of twelve! They are always looking for affordable equipment in good working condition that they can use to set up a home station, or donated, used equipment that can be resold at hamfests, with the proceeds going toward a club station. If you can help, please contact Cheryl at 5311 Twin Elms Drive, Racine, WI 53406.

## Parise, SAREX 90 to Fly in September

(Continued from page 12)

12 hours a day of packet DXing from the automated robot packet radio system on board the orbiter as well. The system is designed to detect a "connect" and automatically log the station, making it eligible for a souvenir QSL card.

In a related matter, ARRL President Larry Price, W4RA, has informed Jay O'Brien, W6GO, that two meter communication to and from the orbiter will not change frequencies to placate users of PacketClusters on 144.95 MHz. O'Brien, who edits the W6GO/K6HHD QSL Manager List, has asked the League to intervene to protect high frequency DX spotting reports that use the frequency, but in a FAX to the northern California publisher, President Price stated that no accommodation can be made because "it would not be in our best interest to reopen the question of frequency selection for this SAREX."

The ARRL president did leave the door open for further discussion on this matter, but not in the immediate future, noting, "It would seem to me that in the longer run, you raise an excellent issue that should be explored so that all of these operations can co-exist."

Over the past few months, O'Brien and a few other widely scattered PacketCluster operators have been voicing opposition to continued use by SAREX missions of 144.95 MHz, but the majority of amateurs we have spoken with seem to feel that the benefits of earth-space communications outweigh the few minutes a day, every few years, that this communication might interfere with PacketCluster operations in a handful of localities nationwide.

- Roy Neal, K6DUE, and Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in Westlink Report, 08/03/90

# BEST OF MFJ

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The best of all CW world's -- a deluxe MFJ Keyer using a Curtis 8044ABM chip in a compact package that fits right on the Bencher iambic paddle!

This MFJ Keyer is small in size but big in features. You get iambic keying, adjustable weight and tone and front panel volume and speed controls (8-50 WPM), dot-dash memories, speaker, sidetone and push button selection of automatic or semi-automatic/tune modes. It's also totally RF proof and has ultra-reliable solid state outputs that key both tube and solid state rigs. Use 9 volt battery or 110 VAC with MFJ-1305, \$12.95.

The keyer mounts on a Bencher paddle to form a small (4-1/8 x 2-5/8 x 5/2 inches) attractive combination that is a pleasure to look at and use.

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You can buy just the keyer assembly, MFJ-422BX, for only \$79.95 to mount on your Bencher paddle.

### Deluxe 300 W Tuner



MFJ-949D is the world's most popular 300 watt PEP tuner. It covers 1.8-30 MHz, gives you a new peak and average reading Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, built-in dummy load, 6 position antenna switch and 4:1 balun -- in a compact 10 x 3 x 7 inch cabinet. Meter lamp uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

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Now you can quickly optimize your antenna for peak performance with this portable, totally self-contained antenna bridge.

No other equipment needed -- take it to your antenna site. Determine if your antenna is too long or too short, measure its resonant frequency and antenna resistance to 500 ohms. It's the easiest, most convenient way to determine antenna performance. Built in resistance bridge, null meter, tunable oscillator-driver (1.8-30 MHz). Use 9 V battery or 110 VAC with AC adapter, \$12.95.

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Mount it outdoors away from electrical noise for maximum signal, minimum noise. Covers 50 KHz to 30 MHz.

Receives strong, clear signals from all over the world. 20 dB attenuator, gain control, ON LED. Switch two receivers and aux. or active antenna. 6x3x5 in. Remote unit has 54 inch whip, 50 ft. coax and connector. 3x2x4 in. Use 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

### VHF SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ-812B \$29.95 Covers 2 Meters and 220 MHz. 30 or 300 Watt scales. Also reads relative field strength 1-170 MHz and SWR above 14 MHz. 4 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 in.



### MFJ Coax Antenna Switches



\$34.95 MFJ-1701



\$21.95 MFJ-1702B



\$59.95 MFJ-1704

Select any of several antennas from your operating desk with these MFJ Coax Switches. They feature mounting holes and automatic grounding of unused terminals. They come with MFJ's one year unconditional guarantee. MFJ-1701, \$34.95. Six position antenna switch. SO-239 connectors. 50-75 ohm loads. 2 KW PEP, 1 KW CW. Black alum. cabinet. 10x3x1 1/2 inches. MFJ-1702B, \$21.95. 2 positions plus new Center Ground. 2.5 KW PEP, 1 KW CW. Insertion loss below .2 dB. 50 dB isolation at 450 MHz. 50 ohm. 3x2x2 in. MFJ-1704, \$59.95. 4 position cavity switch with lightning/surge protection device. Center ground. 2.5 KW PEP, 1 KW CW. Low SWR. Isolation better than 50 dB at 500 MHz. Negligible loss. 50 ohm. 6 1/4 x 4 1/4 x 1 1/4 in.

### "Dry" Dummy Loads for HF/VHF/UHF

MFJ has a full line of dummy loads to suit your needs. Use a dummy load for tuning to reduce needless (and illegal) QRM and save your finals. MFJ-260B, \$28.95. VHF/HF. Air cooled, non-inductive 50 ohm resistor. SO-239 connector. Handles 300 Watts. Run full load for 30 seconds, derating curve to 5 minutes. SWR less than 1.3:1 to 30 MHz, 1.5:1 to 150 MHz. 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 7 in. MFJ-262, \$69.95. HF. 1 KW. SWR less than 1.5:1 to 30 MHz. 3x3x13 in. MFJ-264, \$109.95. Versatile UHF/VHF/HF 1.5 KW load. Low SWR to 650 MHz, usable to 750 MHz. Run 100 watts for 10 minutes, 1500 watts for 10 seconds. SWR is 1.1:1 to 30 MHz, below 1.3:1 to 650 MHz. 3x3x7 inches.

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MFJ Speaker Mics \$24.95 MFJ's compact Speaker/Mics let you carry your HT on your belt and never have to remove it to monitor calls or talk. You get a wide range speaker and first-rate electret mic element for superb audio on both transmit and receive. Earphone jack, handy lapel/pocket clip, PTT, lightweight retractable cord. Gray. One year unconditional guarantee. MFJ-284 fits ICOM, Yaesu, Santic. MFJ-286 fits Kenwood.

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MFJ Multiple DC Outlet MFJ-1112 \$29.95 New MFJ DC Power Outlet saves you space and money. Hook it to your 12 VDC power supply and get 6 DC outlets for connecting your accessories. RF bypassing keeps RF out of power supply from DC line outlet. 13 1/2 x 2 3/4 x 2 1/2 in.

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Huge 5/8 inch bold LCD digits let you see the time from anywhere in your shack. Choose from the dual clock that has separate UTC/local time display or the single 24 hour ham clock.

Mounted in a brushed aluminum frame. Easy to set. The world's most popular ham clocks for accurate logs. MFJ-108B 4 1/2 x 1 x 2. MFJ-107B 2 1/4 x 1 x 2 in.

### Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter has a new peak reading function! It shows you SWR, forward and reflected power in 2000/500 and 200/50 watt ranges. Covers 1.8-30 MHz. Mechanical zero adjusts for movement. SO-239 connectors. Lamp uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

### Deluxe Code Practice Oscillator

MFJ-557 Deluxe Code Practice Oscillator has a Morse key and oscillator unit mounted together on a heavy steel base so it stays put on your table. Portable because it runs on a 9-volt battery (not included) or an AC adapter (\$12.95) that plugs into a jack on the side.

Earphone jack for private practice. Tone and Volume controls for a wide range of sound. Speaker. Key has adjustable contacts and can be hooked to your transmitter. Sturdy. 8 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 in.

### MFJ Multiple DC Outlet

MFJ-1112 \$29.95

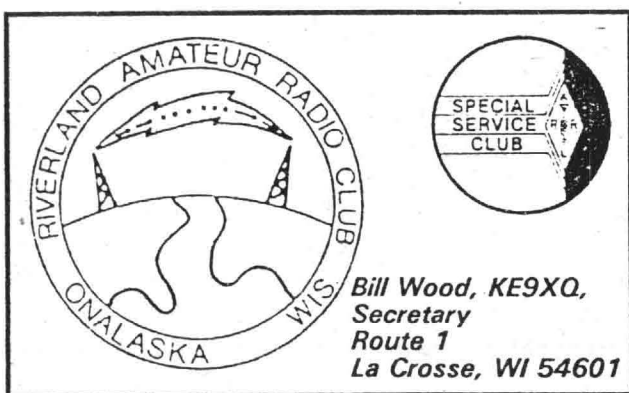
New MFJ DC Power Outlet saves you space and money. Hook it to your 12 VDC power supply and get 6 DC outlets for connecting your accessories. RF bypassing keeps RF out of power supply from DC line outlet. 13 1/2 x 2 3/4 x 2 1/2 in.

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1990 MFJ Enterprises, Inc.





Greetings.

The regular monthly meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Bill Wood, KE9XQ, in the absence of our president and vice president, at 7:35 p.m. on August 7, 1990.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read and accepted.

Next, Arby Boomer, WF9T, gave the treasurer's report, and it was also accepted as presented.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Van Elston, WA9FIO, reported on the repeater site, with a block diagram flow chart of the various control signals, etc., etc. We still need to shut her down for about a week for adjustments.

Motion was made by Scott Neader, KA9FOX, to install the "S" meter function while the machine is down for the calibra-

tions, modifications, etc., starting Saturday night, Sept. 9th, through the 15th. Dick Kleppe, KØKTP, seconded this, and the motion passed. (Please note: SkyWarn people, etc., will need to use '76 while '97 is down).

Walter Altus, WD9GCR, brought up the subject of having a mini-swapfest at our October meeting. Duane Fruechte, W9HWQ, made this into a motion, Walter seconded it, and it, too, passed. (Announcement: Since Tuesday's meeting, considerable discussion was had about having a large swapfest Sunday, October 11 at the Valley View Mall. Plans are being made to have mail outs. Any questions? See Walter, Charlie, Dick, or myself. While most are in favor that we have talked to, we don't have official club blessings yet.)

#### NEW BUSINESS

Jim Wiskow, KE9BC, brought up autopatch concerns. Several others added their observations, and it seems that we need a reminder going out to our repeater users that there are definite stipulations in Part 97 regulating our practices. No fingers really want to be pointed at anyone right now, just a general understanding that "if in doubt, don't." Our control operators are being instructed to shut down operations if the message doesn't get through to these people. Enough said?

Rick Williams, KV9U, suggested a do-

nation to BSSS toward purchase of a new computer. Van, WA9FIO, suggested a matching challenge with the other clubs involved. This was tabled for our president, Dick, to set up a committee to develop this challenge or -whatever into a workable plan.

Walt, WD9GCR, moved to close; seconded by Jim, KE9BC.

#### THOSE PRESENT WERE:

Van Elston	WA9FIO
Art Osborn	WØJDC
Walter Altus	WD9GCR
Gary Webb	NI9V
Bob Selbrede	KA9EZK
Wid Johnson	W9DM
Maty Johnson	XYL/W9DM
Bill Wood	KE9XQ
Mike Miklister	WD9DLM
Jim Wiskow	KE9BC
Dick Kleppe	KØKTP
Duane Fruechte	W9HWQ
Joe Meyera	WA9SOQ
Tom O'Brien	WB9BJQ
Arby Boomer	WF9T
Rick Williams	KV9U
Karl E. Simonson	KB9EQI
Larry L. Olson	KA9FOX
Scott Neader	

## TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Rolland Walty, W9LEE  
Secretary  
W. 4117 Hwy. 102  
Westboro, WI 54490

The next regular meeting will be September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Taylor County Courthouse Annex, 2nd and Ogden, Medford.

#### MINUTES OF AUGUST 9 MEETING

Meeting called to order at 7:21 p.m. by President N9GEN. Members attending were WD9C, KE9LX, W9QHI, KA9WDX, KB9BLV, N9GEN, KE4FE, KA9UXN, N9GHZ, and

W9LEE. Minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. No treasurer's report was available. A letter to the Taylor County Sheriff concerning a complimentary copy of Badger State Smoke Signals was read by the Secretary.

There was an informal discussion or requesting permission for representatives of the club to attend a regular meeting of sheriff's personnel to explain and demonstrate the operation of the emergency autopatch. No date scheduled yet.

Discussion of the "Polish Razzberry" repeater interference continued, with the request that all members monitoring the W9QHI repeater keep a log of the time and duration of each occurrence of the noise bursts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Rolland Walty, W9LEE

Secretary

Area hams attending the August 11 Hamfest at Rhinelander were KB9BLV, WD9FWP and son KA9WDC, KA9UXN and his son N9FZS, and another father-son team, N9FSZ and WD9ITL. Also present were WD9C, W9LEE, and former club member WA9BUV. W9LEE received one of the door prizes. A good time was had by all, and thanks are due to the Northwoods Amateur Radio Club, Tomahwak Repeater Association, Rhinelander Repeater Association, and Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the sponsors.

## Northern Wisconsin Radio Club

—Since 1923—

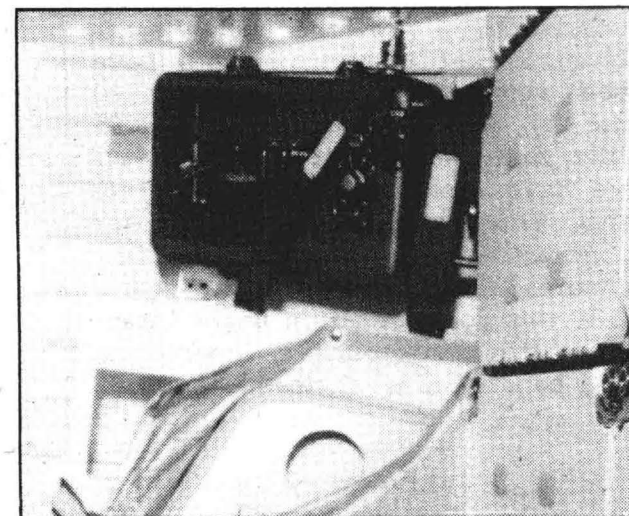
Steve Kraft, KE9RW  
Secretary  
Rt. 7, Box 62  
Menomonie, WI. 54751

No information has been received from the NWRC at press time. The next meeting is Sep. 25, room 247 of Menomonie High School, with a packet demo by KE9RW.

## SAREX Radio Experiment

At right is a medium closeup view of components of the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX-II) for STS-35. This stowage/work station in JSC's full fuselage trainer serves as a proxy for the Columbia for training purposes. Inside the window shade stowage bag (below the radio equipment) is the SAREX-II antenna, built at no cost to the government by the Motorola Amateur Radio Club, Schaumburg, IL. SAREX will operate one of 4 modes: voice, SSTV, data, or FSTV. Also see page 12 of this issue of BSSS.

- NASA Photo





# A New Ham Radio Store Opens

By Richard R. Regent, K9GDF

5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221

A new ham radio store opens, the flyer says. Let's check this out.

Sure enough. Convenient to expressways on Milwaukee's south side is Radio Recyclers - mid-block, between 32nd and 33rd, on the south side of Lincoln Avenue, near small businesses like Tropical Fish, Lock Shop, Upholstery and Collectibles. Free, three-hour on-street parking is available in the front of the store or, at most, just a few car lengths away.

As we enter Recyclers, it's immediately evident that the store is clean, bright, and organized. Shelves neatly hold QSTs, CQs, 73s, handbooks, amateur manuals and classic radio books in one section; used receivers, transmitters, antenna tuners, transceivers, and test equipment, lined up on shelves along two walls. Red plastic baskets hold assortments of tubes, parts, and antenna insulators in another part of the store.

The sound of Morse code coming from an HF amateur station gets our attention on the right. The aroma of free, fresh coffee lures us to a table on the left. Then, from behind the center counter radiate the friendly smiles of Neil and Virginia Lawton - Radio Recyclers is their brainchild.

Neil Lawton, Extra Class WK9Q, a ham for 2-1/2 years, says he prefers to operate CW. Virginia, studying for her Novice license, designed their business logo, and is a science teacher at a Milwaukee public middle school. They have been married for four years, and it's evident they love this new venture. Radio Recyclers' grand opening was on July 13th.

Neil, who likes Drake equipment, points out that the ham operating table in the store has HF stations with a G5RV dipole, VHF and UHF with a diamond dual-bander, and even a scanner. "Everyone is welcome to operate, do some shortwave listening, try out equipment, or read," Neil says invitingly.

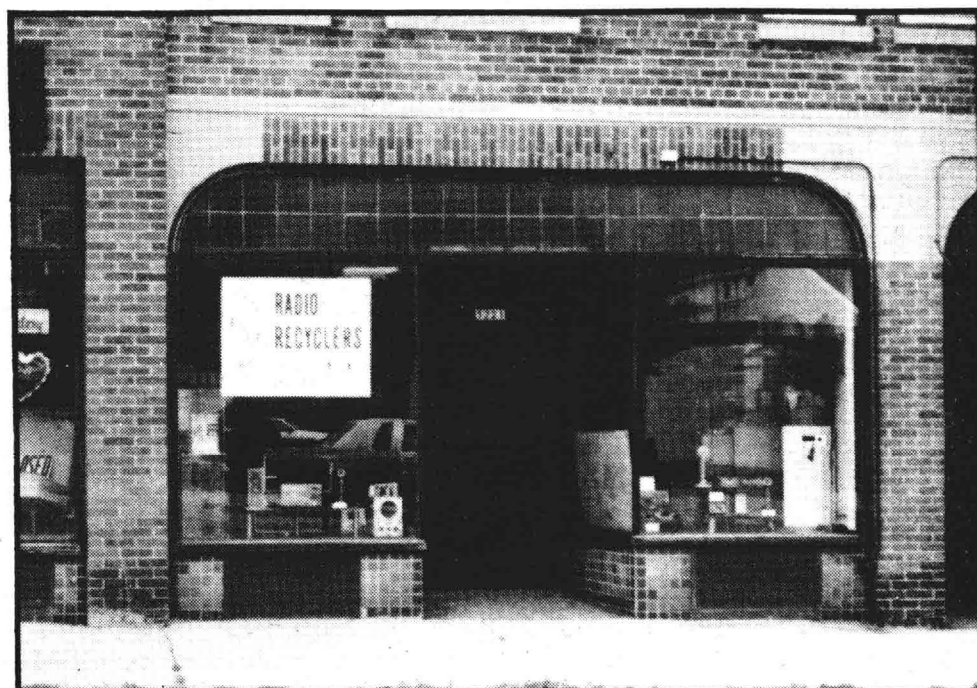
Virginia highlights another area: "There are 500 drawers of electronic parts, hardware, resistors, capacitors, grommets, and connectors. Whatever you may need for repairs or small projects."

As we sit in comfortable chairs at a wooden round table resting on a huge square oriental rug, I feel relaxed and at home as Neil, with a good sense of humor and business, agrees, "Folks don't have to feel that they must spend money here everytime they visit; they can just come in and chew the rag or browse through the library of books."

Radio Recyclers buys, sells, and consigns used ham equipment. They normally don't make repairs so, if a rig doesn't work, it gets clearly marked "DOESN'T WORK - AS IS". Neil buys from estates, swapfests, and individuals, and remarks, "I want to pay customers more for their used equipment than they would get if they traded it in on new equipment elsewhere." A recent in-house mailing to 12,000 amateurs has brought in lots of business, and the UPS truck stops most every business day to pick up packages for delivery out of town.

Neil has a "no questions asked, 48-hour warranty", and accepts Visa or Master Card. Just then, a lady came in and asked if she could get a refund for a 24-hour clock she bought a few days ago. Neil jumped up, said yes, and immediately took care of the matter. The satisfied customer said she would return later to buy something else for her husband. I was impressed at the fine customer relations.

Virginia remarks, a bit chidingly, that her modest and devoted husband Neil is a resource of information: ham club meetings, license exams, amateur classes, swapfests, nets, repeaters, and street directions. Neil and Virginia have many free forms, including FCC 610, DX countries lists, plus loads of ARRL literature. Open Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 10 to 7, and Saturday from 10 to 2, they can also help over the phone ((414) 383-9001), or by mail: Radio Recyclers, 3221 West Lincoln Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215.



Radio Recyclers is located among a number of small businesses, on the south side of Milwaukee's Lincoln Avenue.



Neil Lawton, WK9Q, right, and his wife, Virginia, are the owners of the new Radio Recyclers Amateur Radio store in Milwaukee.

Photos by Barb Regent/N9DIJ

## Attention: Participating Clubs, VE Teams, Readers, Etc.

In order to be as sure as possible that your information will be published in BSSS, please do the following: (1) Participating club's information (minutes, announcements, etc.) should be sent to K9ZZ no later than 7 days after the meeting. (2) Send your info to the right BSSS staffer! If you are in doubt, check the masthead at the lower left on page 2 of each issue. (3) Don't mix items in the same envelope (such as sending a feature story to K9ZZ, with a Test Point item.) This results in misplaced or lost items. (4) Address changes go to K9EN, not to K9ZZ. (5) Remember that BSSS goes to the printer the last Monday of the month. (6) We should have Test Point info at least 8 weeks before an exam session. Please help us to serve you!



# Racine Club Secretary's Canoe Trips: for Fun, Hamming..and for the Birds

By Steve Bellgraph, K9ZL  
402 Shelley Drive  
Racine, WI 53405

Racine Megacycle Club Secretary Steve Bellgraph, K9ZL, while on his annual canoe trip, sometimes takes along an extra pack containing a radio, batteries, and antenna, to see how well he can get out of the Minnesota north woods. He originally used a Heath HW-8, at 0.9 watts CW, but now he runs higher power, a full 5 watts. The hardest part of the operation is getting up an 80 or 40 meter doublet among all those trees. A slingshot and fish line helps.

Although now and then, Steve comes across another canoe party, most of his social life depends on local residents, like birds. Although the birds will eat crackers when offered, they will walk over crackers to take a piece of pancake from your hand. They have been known to try to make off with a whole pancake, but found they could fly only downhill. On one occasion, one of the birds disappeared for a while, only to be discovered beside Steve, helping its self to the pancake on Steve's plate.



Racine Megacycle Club Secretary Steve Bellgraph, K9ZL, hams it up from the wild during one of his canoe trips in northern Minnesota.

- Photo courtesy Steve Bellgraph/K9ZL

(Editor's Note: At press time, no meeting information for the RMC had arrived.)

## Notice on Testing of Disabled

(Continued from page 5)

ability) as well as guidelines for applying to FCC for a total waiver of the 3 and 20 WPM Morse examinations for those individuals.

FCC said at that time that a Notice of Proposed Rule Making was being drafted.

In its June 15 statement, FCC codified procedures for accommodating disabled applicants, saying that special testing - such as substituting a sending for a receiving test, or pausing the CW tape to allow the examinee to speak or otherwise communicate the message to the examiner - now could only be done given a physician's certificate of disability.

The aim in accommodating disabilities is to encourage the applicant to make a "good faith effort" to pass the exam. In a recent letter to its volunteer examiner teams, the ARRL said, "In most cases, the (flexibility specified by FCC) will allow the candidate to pass the Morse code ex-

teams, the ARRL said, "In most cases, the (flexibility specified by FCC) will allow the candidate to pass the Morse code examination on his/her own - therefore not requiring a waiver of the Morse code requirement because these procedures may have accommodated the severe handicap or disability."

In its letter to license applicants, ARRL says, "We would hope that you have at least attempted to pass the examination using the new, more flexible examination procedures announced by the FCC June 15, 1990."

The Morse requirement in its most basic form has not been eliminated - waivers are available only to applicants already holding at least a Novice Class license. This meets international requirements (for operation below 30 MHz) that the licensee have demonstrated a knowledge of Morse.

ARRL also has provided volunteer examining teams with instructions to physicians, along with the proper form for the physician's letter to follow. Since physicians generally are not Morse proficient and may have little idea of the skills and abilities needed to become so, the League's instructions to them contain a brief tutorial on both Morse code and on how Morse examinations are normally administered.

The instructions to physicians also point out the new procedures for accommodating people with disabilities, noting that (The VEC is) "looking to you as the expert

to detail why the patient may not be able to participate in the examination process" (despite the various accommodations available).

The FCC's NPRM 90-356 closes with this:

"...the proposed rule changes would be more efficient and effective than reviewing waiver requests from severely handicapped individuals on a case-by-case basis."

The Commission asks for comments "on all aspects of this proposal."

It is anticipated that volunteer examiners in particular will have something to say, both about the proposal itself and about the way in which the new procedures were announced, then spelled out, and finally followed by an NPRM initiated by the Commission itself.

As the League noted in its latest message to VE teams, now that an NPRM has been issued, the time has arrived for examiners "to express their philosophical and procedural concerns."

In its June 15 statement, the FCC noted that the number of requests from disabled persons for Morse waivers had increased (although they did not say if these were requests to waive 5, 13 or 20 WPM). The FCC (namely John B. Johnston, chief of FCC's Personal Radio Branch) also mentioned that "three persons.. have filed discrimination complaints under the Disability and Rehabilitation (Act).

- The ARRL Letter, 8/10/90

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--	---

Antennas West  
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# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Dan Servias, WA9AJW  
Rte. 1, Box 816  
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Steve Loeffler, WB9ZRE, Editor, 123 W. Oshkosh ST., Ripon, WI 54971

## N9BYS Severely Injured.....

This is a simple request. My friend Carl Schumacher, N9BYS, was in a serious industrial accident on July 23, 1990. As an electrician Carl was working with a 480V motor control unit doing shutdown maintenance when he suddenly found himself on fire. It is suspected that he was hit with a "plasma fireball", usually associated with lightening but occasionally caused by arcing of 400V or greater. He was burned severely in the face, hands, arms, and chest area and is undergoing treatment and plastic surgery at St Mary's Burn Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Carl is expected to be in the hospital for about 8 weeks and then undergo extensive therapy after that. He is a fellow sysop and LOVES his BBS in Burlington, Wi.

I would like ALL hams reading this message to send a get-well message to Carl, however short, to deliver to him on Sept 1st, 1990. MY GOAL IS 1,000 GET-WELL MESSAGES IN A MONTH! I will package them all up in book form and present it to him in the hospital. I'm sure he will spend some time in his rehabilitation answering them. A personal bio on Carl:

Carl, in his early 50's, is a maintenance electrician at Nestles Inc at Burlington for the past 8 years after retiring from the US NAVY as a Chief Radioman. He was on submarines and destroyers during his 22 years. (his hamshack looks like a submarine radio-room!) He is married, XYL Barb, and has 5 children. By the way, his XYL Barb was in a car accident in June and is still in a cast and can't drive. Carl, as a sysop and ham is TOPS. His devotion to keeping the BBS up and available is remarkable. Although heavily sedated in the hospital he STILL expressed concern over his BBS. I told him not to worry, I would handle it for him. He is expected to recover 100% in due time but with a lot of therapy. I want Carl to know that there are hams out there who care and will take the time to wish him well.

SEND ME A SHORT GET-WELL MESSAGE NOW!!!

LET'S SEE IF I CAN GET 1,000 BY THE END OF THE MONTH!!!

Send get-well messages to: N9BYS @ WA9AJW.WI.USA.NA

I hope I can accumulate over 1,000 get-well messages to present to him. Any help would be appreciated... If any questions you can drop me a message or call 414-723-2227...

Dan - WA9AJW @ WA9AJW.WI

## SYSOP Primer.....

Per a request from some sysops at the Eau Claire Meeting, I will try to give a general rundown on how I have set up the "TYT" nodes & the "Lodi" nodes to get the maximum speed & minimum user intervention to get from point "A" to point "B", even if this means going through the maze of nodes throughout South Eastern Wisconsin & Northern Illinois...

The first item is the Parameters.. A few of these are very important & a few don't really do much without radical changes & all nodes do not necessarily use the exact same parameters, ie., 1200 baud nodes & 4800 baud nodes/links/backbones... But here is a general list of how I have set up the route from Lodi to Illinois & points in between..

Parameter	Value	Comment
1	175	Need a high value to accomodate the many routes
2	75	I can set all unusable routes below this value
3	192/224	Depends on the route, etc..
4	250	Seems to work better than 255 on all dual/multi port nodes.
5	3	It will "dump" a node, if not updated, sooner..
6	2	Must always be less than Par 5 & needed for band openings.
7	2700	Must be different on all nodes to avoid collisions..
8	10	Either default of 10 or higher works well...
9	350	I set this higher to avoid converse/DX timeouts..
10	2	Default & ss to work OK..
11	6	Default & can cause problems by going much lower..
12	180	Default
13	4	Default
14	4	Lower on congested frequency, allright on 4800 links..
15	64800	Controversial. All my nodes stay connected 24 hours a day. They will automatically update neighbors by checking every few minutes with a polling frame to see if they are still there.. Neighbors throughout the 200+ mile link know who is there & also never need to send "connect requests". A must for effective networking...
16	6?	I have a different value on all the nodes.. All count own at a different

rate & thereby avoiding collisions..

17	10	Default
18	5	Default
19	2	Default
20	10	Default
21	100	Default
22	18000	Default
23	1/0	Digipeating allowed on all LAN freq. & all User frequencies.
24	0	I do not validate calls to allow the KA-Nodes, etc., access.
25	1	Beacon ID only after traffic.
26	1/0	CQ enabled on all LAN's & user accessible frequencies.

## Neighbor Nodes & Routes

The first thing to do is to get into the Sysop mode with your sysop command. To do this, you must send an S to the node & it will respond with 5 numbers. You must send the correct corresponding letters/numbers back to it from your Password String.

I am going to use the WD9ESU-7 (WIL0D) Node as an example node. We are connected to "wilod" & would like to know its routing to WISLG. I would send this to wilod: N WISLG it should answer with:

```
WIL0D:WD9ESU-7) Routes to: WISLG:WB9TYT-7
> 210 2 1 WD9ESU-9
  91 2 0 WA9SQU-2
```

In this example, the > shows it is an active/connected route, the 210 is the Quality of the route, the 2 is the obsolence count & tells me that it is not a locked route. (A 0 would show a locked route). The 1 shows me that it is on an RS-232 port. (A 0 would show me an RF route). And the call shows me the next exact neighbor. If I wanted to lock in this route, I would do this: N WB9TYT-7 + WISLG 210 0 1 WD9ESU-9 To remove a route from the list, you would use a "-" rather than a "+" & use the exact values shown with the "N" command.. This is an excellent method of routing without being interrupted by "band openings", etc.. The other method is to "lockout" a node with the "R" command. This will not work with Net/Rom version 1.0!!! But is available with later versions & with Nord<Link 1.0...

I know that the best & most effective route to NF9R-1 (WISHE) is via the Backbones & not on 145.01, so I first use the "N" command to set the correct path to wishe like this: N NF9R-1 + WISHE 180 0 1 WD9ESU-9 & then use the R command to lock it out of the RF part like this: R 0



NF9R-1 + 0 This sets the RF port value to zero & the Neighbor routing to the RS-232 & backbone route. You can also use this to lockout nodes that only show up during sporadic band openings..

I hope this helps to explain some of the fine sysop features available to force the nodes to behave in a logical manner & allow them to route traffic through the maze with little trouble & operate in a most expedient manner.. I also have a few folks that keep tabs on them & alert me to any problems that they might encounter in any thing they might try to do with them... I suspect there are still a few loose ends & we are trying to upgrade the 220 link between Lodi, Markesan, & Slinger to a 4800 baud link, but it does handle a tremendous amount of traffic at 1200 baud..

Next will be a look-see at where each node goes & why & how... 73 es Cul.. Dan.... WB9TYT @ WB9TYT.#MKE.WI.USA.NA

## Changes @ Lodi

The 221.315 Link connecting Slinger, Lodi, & Markesan is now running at 4800 baud... It still has a few rough edges, but these will be ironed out in the very near future... There is now a new route to get to the WD9ESU BBS in Lodi.. You can connect to WD9ESU on 145.070 directly or WD9ESU via the WD9ESU-7 (WIL0D) Node on 145.010.. Larry is not running node software in his BBS anymore, so delete the WIL0D1 alias from your node & map list... Larry is running a KaNode & this maybe used to get from 145.070 to 145.010 by using the call WD9ESU-3. We have not had time to check this out yet, so you will be exploring new territory!! Please let me know of any problems, etc., you might have while using this route, if you know this is the route you are using, & this info will help us to correct them...

The calls & alias'es upgraded are: WB9TYT-9 (#SLG2) WD9ESU-9 (#L0D2) & KB9WC-9 (#GLK2).

Thank You for your patience & support... 73, Dan.. WB9TYT @ WB9TYT.#MKE.WI

## THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walkins are permitted. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to William Firchow, Jr., NW9P, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140, telephone (414) 658-8390.

## Tomahawk, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No pre-registration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Greg Garner, WA9W, 4088 Highway 51, Harshaw, WI 54529. Telephone (715) 453-7096.

## APPLETON, WISCONSIN

September 15, 1990

Sponsored by Fox Cities ARC. Madison Jr. High School, 2020 Carpenter St., Appleton, WI. Contact: George R Croy, W9MDP, 318 East Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54911. (414) 730-0967.

## DUBUQUE, IOWA (ARRL/VEC)

September 15, and December 8, 1990

Exams are at 9 a.m. in the Central Fire Station at 9th and Central in Dubuque. Use the basement entrance on 9th Street. Contact Mike Jozefowicz, NSQU, 2735 Hickory Hill, Dubuque, Iowa, telephone 319-582-8563. Talkins are on the 147.84/24 and 147.63/03 repeaters.

(Thanks Art Evans, KA9KLZ)

## Loves Park, IL

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, 5006 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL 61111. (815) 877-6768.

## JUNEAU, WISCONSIN

September 15, 1990

The Rock River Radio Club will be offering all classes of Exams beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the lower level conference room of the Dodge County Sheriff's Department in Juneau. Walk-ins will be accepted. Contact Dale Marks at (414) 458-4234.

The Rock River Radio Club is also considering offering classes this Fall for Novice through Extra. These classes will only be offered if enough people sign up. Contact Dale Marks for more information.

## MINNESOTA TESTS

September 8, 1990	BARC
September 15	SPRC
September 29, 1990	SEMARC
October 13, 1990	BARC
November 10, 1990	BARC
December 1, 1990	SPRC
December 8, 1990	BARC
December 15, 1990	SEMARC

## Locations and contacts:

St. Paul Radio Club (SPRC)  
St. Lukes School (cafeteria)  
1065 Summit Ave.  
St. Paul, MN  
contact: Jay Bellows (612) 222-7253

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)  
Creskide Community Center  
98th and Penn Ave. So.  
Bloomington, MN  
contact: Art Putt (612) 881-7181

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)  
St. Thomas Aquinas Activity Bldg.  
920 Holly Ave.  
St. Paul Park, MN  
contact: David Harrell (612) 459-1647

The above Minnesota test are listed as a help to readers near or traveling thru the area. If you are interested in any of these, please save this listing as we may not always have space available to list them. Thanks to "Ground Wave" for the above information.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.



# SSB

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home BBS: \_\_\_\_\_ Monitor Freq.: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours of Operation: Day: ☐ Night: ☐ 24 Hour: ☐

Station: Power: \_\_\_\_\_ Ant. Gain: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ TNC: \_\_\_\_\_ Computer: \_\_\_\_\_

Station Capabilities: HF: ☐ 2M: ☐ 220 MHz: ☐ 440 MHz: ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I operate a Digipeater: ☐ Alias: \_\_\_\_\_ Packet BBS: ☐ Software Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Interest in Packet: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form, COMPLETED, with your check or money order for \$ 12.50 to:

Dan Servias, WA9AJW, Rte. 1, Box 816, Elkhorn, WI 53121



# Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club



K90DK  
WB9FDZ

Art Kleefisch, W9WSS  
Secretary  
1014 5th Street  
Baraboo, WI. 53913

The next meeting of the YTARC will be held on Thursday, September 13th, in room 14 of the Baraboo Civic Center. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM.

Minutes of YTARC August 15th meeting.

The August 15th 1990 meeting of the YTARC was called to order at 7:50 pm by President Duane Grotophorst.

The following members were present:

Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL	Logenville
Jim Decker, WB9UQT	Baraboo
Harry Mayland, K9FFT	Baraboo
Harry Westlund, K9EHK	Baraboo
Harold Reif, KA9YQP	Baraboo
Steve Steele, KB9ESO	Portage
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo

The minutes of the July meeting were accepted as published in BSSS.

The Treasurer's report was given as, "No change".

There was no mail or telephone response from HAMS interested in upgrading classes. Steve Steele, KB9ESO, said that he is interested in upgrading to the Technition Class License. Duane, KA9HKL, spent some time talking with Steve after the meeting and he may have some idea of the type of help Steve may need. If there are any other HAMS, in the area, interested in classes or help in upgrading their license, please let us know.

There was no, mail or telephone, response from HAMS relating to emergency communication. At this meeting almost all the HAMS present indicated that they would be willing to help with emergency communications. More work will be done to provide AES in this area.

We received a letter from Timothy R. Stieve, Director, Sauk County Emergency Government, indicating that he also would like to have the list of Hams that could be contacted to help with emergency communications.

On July 30th Phil Anderson, W9TP, and I put on a demonstration of Amateur Radio Operation for some of the residents of the Jefferson Meadows Care Center. Both Phil and I want to thank Bob King, KA9GNY, and LJ, WB9TFJ, for talking to the group on 2 meter simplex.

Bucknite - Marvin Kaiser, not present to collect. Next month drawing for four dollars.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Art Kleefisch, Secretary

## YTARC BIRTHDAZE

Jermy Wight	WB9NVI	September 10
John Hansel	WB9TIG	September 16
George Halper	W9SUF	September 16
Norman Gade	K9ELK	September 22
Gordon Grant	W9ULM	September 23

## SENTENCE SERMON

Opportunity knocks, but you have to open the door.

Clerk: "Are you interested in this office equipment?" Customer: "Just the fax, ma'am."

--Chan Harris, Door County Advocate

He never beleived in the tooth fairy until he lost one of his false teeth.

And the very next morning, he found something under his pillow.

--A plastic quarter.

--Jack Adams, Belleville Recorder

A friend told be about an acquaintance of his whose wife has sued him for divorce on the grounds that he was sterile.

Then a single woman who lived next door started a paternity suit against him, claiming he was the father of her child.

He said that was bad enough, but what was worse was that he lost both cases.

--Dan Satran, Vilas County News-Review

# The 12th Annual Fall Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs 1990 Computer and Ham Radio SWAPFEST

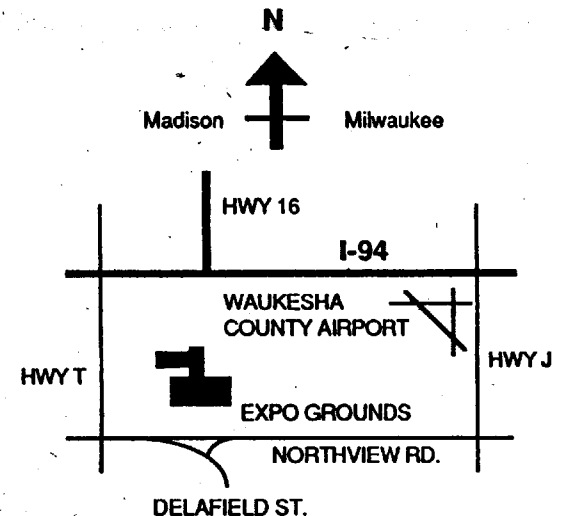
Sunday, October 14th 1990

from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the  
Waukesha County Exposition Center  
Highways J and FT in  
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## The KMRA 12th Annual Computer and Ham Radio Swapfest Advanced Registration Form

Please send me tickets for the following:

- General Admission - \$4.00 each (\$5.00 at the door)
- 4 foot Table Reservation - \$5.00 each (\$6.00 at the door as available)
- Electrical Outlet - \$5.00 as available
- Amateur Radio Exam Information provided at no charge

**PLEASE  
INCLUDE  
AN S.A.S.E. !**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

All orders *must* be accompanied by a SASE and mailed to:

KMRA Swapfest  
PO Box 276  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0276

**VENDOR SET-UP AT 6:00 AM**

Responses to all correspondence and ticket requests received on or after October 6 will be held at the door!



# The Shopping Center



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SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1991

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

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Doug Kleemann, KA7WZ, Shawano  
Chad Kurszewski, WE9V, Greenfield  
Martin Van Der Burg, KA9MSR, Kaukauna

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## MADISON SWAPFEST

April 7, 1991

Dane County Expo Center  
Forum Building

Sponsored by MARA/WB9AER

P.O. Box 8890

Madison, WI 53708-8890

(608) 249-7579

Answer Machine

## SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST

July 6, 1991

(Held every July)

American Legion Park  
Shepard Ave. Oak Creek, WI

PO Box 102

Milwaukee, WI 53172

## SWAPFEST 1990

Jefferson County Fairgrounds  
Hwy. 18 West • Jefferson, WI

Tri-County  
Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 112  
Jefferson, WI 53549

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MANICORAD Radio Club  
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Nights—"Lou" 414-682-2557



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- Packet/Computer forums ● Commercial exhibits ● Flea market
- Women's crafts ● Saturday night banquet ● Sunday exams

Admission: \$4 advance; \$5 at the gate. Banquet: \$12 per person, by res.  
Write: Superfest '90, P.O. Box 3461, Peoria, Ill. 61614. Call: 309-674-5656.

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